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gestion of winter the ducks began to drop into the Oberlin water-works reservoir. For the first time in the history of the reservoir Hooded Merganser has stopped in the southward migration. On November 19, a flock of four males and three females arrived about the middle of the forenoon and were gone shortly after dinner. Two females came and remained all day on the 21st. The males were in full dress. They seemed to be feeding upon the vegetation at the water's edge, and were not seen to catch any of the very numerous fish.

American Golden-eye (*Clangula clangula americana*). One in immature plumage appeared on November 19, and remained for several days, feeding upon the Cara at the edges of the reservoir. It has never before been seen during the fall.

Earlier in the season **Pied-billed Grebes** and **Coots** were unusually numerous at the reservoir for two or three weeks. A dozen grebes on the reservoir at one time was not unusual. One Coot, scarcely larger than a grebe, fed constantly at the edge of the water, with no apparent fear of persons standing within a few feet of him, watching him dive down to the bed of Cara, bring up a large mouth-full, and proceed to swallow as much as he could before it sank out of reach. The clear water permitted a perfect study of his motions while under water.

LYNDS JONES.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Birds of Ohio. By Rev. W. Leon Dawson, A.M. Published by the Wheaton Publishing Company, 1216 The Hayden, Columbus, Ohio. Sold only by subscription.

This is the most notable book upon popular scientific ornithology which has appeared since Nehrling's "Our Native Birds of Song and Beauty." While it treats only the 320 odd birds which have been found in Ohio, its treatment of these species is so thorough that little remains to be said about them. The species are among the most common which will be found in any locality east of the Great Plains, and the book will therefore find a ready sale outside the state where it will prove as useful as within the state. The book is an imperial quarto of about 720 pages exclusive of 80 colored plates, printed on fine paper, and with some 200 cuts of birds and nests in the text. These cuts are almost wholly from photographs from nature, and are therefore new—made expressly for this book. The author has combined accuracy of statement with good literary style, making facts interesting to the casual reader. The brief, but accurate descriptions of the birds have been taken directly from Ohio specimens of each species, and are therefore not rehashes of other descriptions. A brief statement of the range of the species at large is followed by its range in Ohio. A concise description of the nest and eggs is also given for such species

as breed in Ohio. Then follows, at greater or less length, a general account of the habits of the species for the popular reader. We bespeak for this book a wide field of usefulness.

The Zoological Quarterly Bulletin, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Division of Zoology. Vol. 1, No. 1, Birds Around the Farm; No. 2, The Economic Value of Our Native Birds. Edited by H. A. Surface, M.S., Economic Zoologist.

In the first number of this new quarterly, Professor Surface gives descriptions and cuts of bird houses which may be erected for the accommodation of various species of birds, points out their economic value, notes their decrease and makes a plea for their preservation, and discusses the value of bird study, giving methods. In the second number an analytical key to the orders and families of North American birds is given, followed by a discussion (to be continued) of the larger groups. We understand that this Quarterly contemplates covering the whole field of Zoology ultimately, but will probably confine itself to birds for the present. We bespeak for it a useful mission in the field of popular education.

Osteology of the Limicolæ. By Dr. R. W. Shufeldt. Reprint from the American Naturalist, Vol. 37, No. 442, pages 697-725.

Osteology and Systematic Position of the Kingfishers (Halcyones). By Dr. R. W. Shufeldt. Reprint from Annals of the Carnegie Museum, Vol. 2, pp. 15-70, 1903.

In these two papers Dr. Shufeldt gives us the results of a great amount of painstaking study and comparison of skeletons, with the object of more definitely showing the relationships of these two groups of birds. They have never been quite satisfactorily disposed of, different authors differing in their opinions as to their proper position in the scheme of classification. In a tentative scheme of classification Dr. Shufeldt places "the Charadriiformes between the Lariformes and the group containing all the ralline forms." The Dr. regards the present knowledge of the structure of the kingfishers and their affines as too meager for even a tentative classification. We trust that this comparative study of osteology may go on until that phase of systematic work has been completed, enabling us to use the skeletal features intelligently.

L. J.

Birds of a Maryland Farm. A Local Study of Economic Ornithology. By Sylvester D. Judd, Ph.D. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Biological Survey. Bulletin No. 17.

In this extensive study of the 230 acre Bryan Farm, opposite Mount Vernon, on the Potomac river, Dr. Judd brings home to us the real value of local study of the birds. Any bird student who